ARTICLE VII - PARTICIPATION IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

c. Responsibilities of the Standing Committees

* 1. Curriculum Committee

After receiving from the All-University Committee any recommendation submitted by any Department Chair or by any member of the university community, the Curriculum Committee, after consultation with any appropriate department or departments, shall from time to time prepare and transmit to the Vice President reports and recommendations with respect to the general coordination and improvement of the University’s academic program. In carrying out this charge, the committee shall evaluate and make recommendations concerning the following:

* + 1. all deletions from, additions to, or changes in the University inventory of courses and identification of the department to which the courses are to be assigned;
    2. major and general educational requirements and proposed changes therein; and
    3. proposals for new academic programs of study as established by the institution, including, but limited to major, concentrations and minors.

In exercising these responsibilities, the Curriculum Committee, in consultation with the chief diversity, inclusion and equal opportunity officer or designee, will evaluate and assess the extent to which proposals may perpetuate racial exclusion and inequities and, when necessary, recommend appropriate changes that address these concerns and promote racial justice.

In addition to the foregoing, the committee shall from time to time conduct a University-wide study of the overall academic program in order to consider and propose major changes in the curriculum design, with a particular focus on curriculum that is anti-racist and/or promotes civil engagement.

Prior to making any decision to establish or disestablish any academic department or academic or library program area at the University, the President shall inform the Curriculum Committee of such intended or pending decision, and the Curriculum Committee may thereafter make any such recommendation in respect thereof as it may deem appropriate. No other provision of this Article VII shall apply to any such decision.

* 1. Academic Policies Committee

After receiving from the All-University Committee any recommendation submitted by any member of the university community, the Academic Policies Committee shall from time to time prepare and transmit to the Vice President reports and recommendations with respect to the following:

* + 1. the academic calendar;
    2. academic standards;
    3. standards for admission to the University;
    4. policies governing selective retention;
    5. educational services that the University should render to the local community; and
    6. library services.

In exercising these responsibilities, the Academic Policies Committee, in consultation with the chief diversity, inclusion and equal opportunity officer or designee, will evaluate and assess the extent to which proposals may perpetuate racial exclusion and inequities and, when necessary, recommend appropriate changes that address these concerns and promote racial justice.

In addition to the forgoing, the committee shall establish a process and timeline for reviewing existing academic policies. Through that process, the committee will evaluate and assess whether existing academic policies may perpetuate racial exclusion and inequities and, when necessary, recommend appropriate changes that address these concerns and promote racial justice.

* 1. Student Affairs Committee

After receiving from the All-University Committee any recommendation submitted by any member of the university community, the Student Affairs Committee shall from time to time prepare and transmit to the Vice President, Student Services, reports and recommendations with respect to the following:

* + 1. needs of the student population to be served;
    2. student activities, including, at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, activities of the Regiment of Cadets;
    3. student participation in the cultural and social activities of the University;
    4. potential racial inequalities in relation to student and campus support services, co-curricular organizations and activities; and
    5. anti-racist and anti-bias training to be provided to students.

The Committee shall make studies of the practices, policies and trends related to student life at other institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth and in the nation.

2. Graduate Education Council

1. Establishment of a Graduate Education Council

Each September 1 there shall be established at each University at which there is a graduate education program a Graduate Education Council.

The membership thereof shall be as follows:

* 1. the President of the University shall appoint three (3) administrators who shall serve at his/her discretion;
  2. under the auspices of the Association, ten (10) members of the graduate faculty shall be selected from among all members of the graduate faculty of the University, provided, however, that in the case of the Massachusetts College of Art and Design, the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, the Graduate Education Council shall be composed of five (5) members of the graduate faculty; and
  3. the members of the council selected pursuant to the foregoing provisions shall elect one (1) member who shall be a student at the University enrolled in two (2) or more graduate courses in a semester.

The terms of office of members of the council for administrator and student members shall commence on the September 1 following said selection and shall end on the next following August 31.

Beginning September 1, 2018 the terms of office for bargaining unit members of the council shall be two-year terms that begin on September 1 following said selection, except that for academic year 2018-2019 one half (1/2) of the bargaining unit members shall be selected for one-year terms. This is necessary to initiate a fifty percent (50%) staggering of the unit member terms.

Whenever a vacancy shall have occurred in the membership of the council, such vacancy shall be filled pursuant to the applicable provisions of the foregoing paragraphs.

The Graduate Education Council shall establish an Executive Committee with full power to meet and carry out the work of the Graduate Education Council during the months of June, July and August and at such other times when classes are in recess for ten (10) or more consecutive working days. The membership of the Executive Committee shall consist of six (6) individuals drawn from the membership of the Graduate Education Council. The six (6) members shall be elected by the Graduate Education Council and shall include two (2) bargaining unit representatives, two (2) student representatives and two (2) administrative representatives. During such period, a quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of one (1) bargaining unit representative, one (1) student representative and one (1) administrative representative.

1. Responsibilities of the Graduate Education Council

Matters in respect of which the council may make reports and recommendations shall be the following:

* 1. the changing of course requirements within the existing graduate curricula;
  2. the addition of new courses and identification of the department to which the courses are to be assigned and the deletion of existing courses within such curricula; and
  3. the criteria to be applied in designating as such members of the graduate faculty.

In exercising these responsibilities, the Council, in consultation with the chief diversity, inclusion and equal opportunity officer or designee, will evaluate and make recommendations on how the proposals perpetuate racial exclusion and disparities and when necessary, to recommend changes that promote racial justice.

The Council shall receive and may solicit from the academic departments of the University recommendations pertaining to the preceding item (iii).

In addition to the forgoing, the Graduate Education Council will establish a process and timeline for reviewing existing policies. Through that process the Council will evaluate and assess whether existing graduate policies may perpetuate racial exclusion and inequities and, when necessary, recommend appropriate changes that address these concerns and promote racial justice.

The council shall also hear appeals from graduate students to the University’s

graduate program.

1. Reporting Procedure Applicable to the Graduate Education Council

Anything in this Article VII to the contrary notwithstanding, every report and recommendation made by the Graduate Education Council shall be transmitted directly to the President of the University through the Vice President, and a copy thereof shall be transmitted to the Chapter President and to the Department Chair of each department that sponsors a graduate program. No such report or recommendation shall be required to be transmitted to the All-University Committee or to any standing or other committee thereof. The Graduate Education Council shall send copies of minutes and its agenda to the All-University Committee.